



Sewer Backup Policy

City's Responsibility:

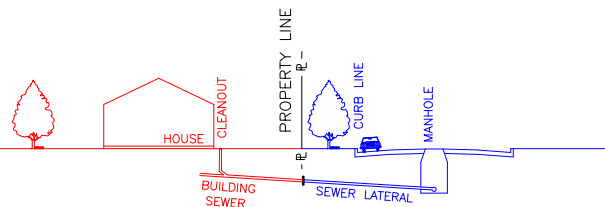
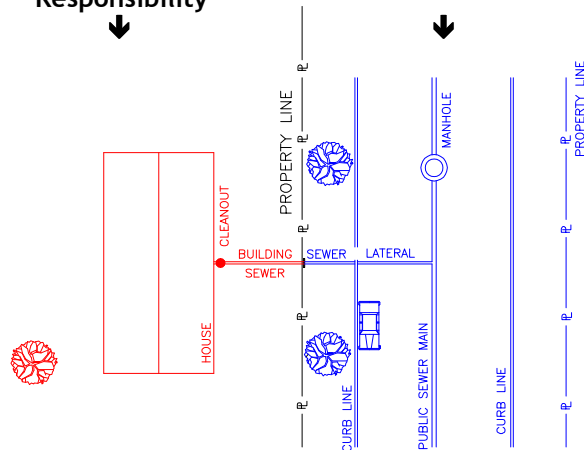
The City is responsible for maintaining the public sewer main and sewer lateral segments which are located on City property in City right of ways or easements.

Property Owner Responsibility:

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the building sewer that expands from the property or easement line to the building. Maintenance includes clearing blockages.

Property Owner Responsibility

City Responsibility



Sewer Emergencies may include:

- Backed up sewer lines
- Line breaks
- Sewage odors
- Overflowing manholes.

To report sewer emergencies, contact the City of McMinnville Wastewater Services Division at (503) 434-7313. For emergencies that occur after hours, please call (503) 434-7316.

City of McMinnville employees will assist property owners in locating the problem, advise the property owner on action needed and correct the problem if it is the City's responsibility.

If the sewer problem originates in the building or in the building sewer, the property owner is responsible.

Property owners should be aware that many property insurance policies exclude damage resulting from sewer backups. It is suggested that property owners check their policies.

In the event of a sewer backup that may be caused by failure in the City's sanitary system, the property owner will be given an Accident Reporting Form that should be completed immediately.

Safety Tips:

Sewer backups can cause health and safety concerns and significant property loss. Here are some safety tips for your property and contents that have water damage from sewer backup.

Do:

- Eliminate water source.
- Turn off circuit breakers supplying electricity to the damaged area to eliminate the risk of electrical shock.

- Turn off the HVAC or air handling system if safely accessible
- Protect yourself against contact with sewage or sewage-contaminated items.
- Wear gloves, boots, goggles, protective clothing and respirator if you absolutely have to perform any cleaning or handling of sewage contaminated items.
- Wash your hands after handling any sewage-contaminated items.
- Contact your doctor if you have any adverse health effects.
- Make plans for restoration crews to remove large furniture items from affected areas.
- Be aware that time is a critical factor and delays in loss mitigation and restoration may result in adverse health and safety effects and additional damage to the structure and contents.

Don't:

- Use electrical equipment while standing in water.
- Use your home wet/dry vacuum since electrical shock may result as well as a spread of bio-contaminants.
- Consume any food that has been left out in contaminated environment.
- Use personal hygiene items that have been left out in a contaminated environment.
- Turn on fans to dry things out.

Consider Not Staying in Building if you:

- Have respiratory problems, including allergies and asthma.
- Are under the age of 2 or over the age of 60.
- Have a weakened immune system because of illness, medication, or any other reason.